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Igreja Methodista Do Brasil

The Methodist Church of Brazil

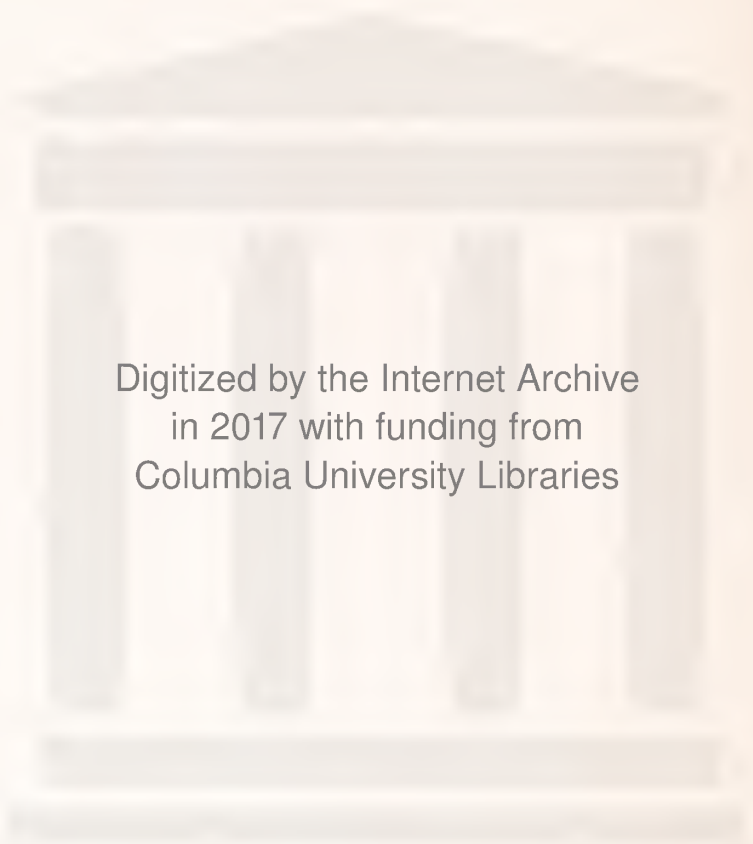


REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMISSION ON
THE AUTONOMOUS CHURCH IN BRAZIL



Compiled by

W. ERSKINE WILLIAMS



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THE JOINT COMMISSION ON THE AUTONOMOUS CHURCH IN BRAZIL

For the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, Charlotte, North Carolina.
Miss Esther Case, Nashville, Tennessee.
Judge W. Erskine Williams, Fort Worth, Texas.
Rev. J. L. Clark, Danville, Kentucky.
Rev. F. S. Love, Raleigh, North Carolina.

For the Brazil Annual Conference:

W. H. Moore
Cesar Dacorso Filho
Epaminondas Moura
D. Ottilia Chaves
Oswaldo Lindenberg

For the Central Brazil Conference:

W. B. Lee
Guaracy Silveira
Oswaldo Luiz da Silva
Elias Escobar Junior
D. Francisca Ferreira de Carvalho

For the South Brazil Conference:

George D. Parker
A. M. Ungaretti
Joao Ignacio Cerilhanes
Miss Eunice F. Andrew
Ephraim Wagner

OFFICERS

Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, *Chairman*
Guaracy Silveira, *Brazilian Secretary*
Frank S. Love, *English Secretary*
George D. Parker, *Assistant to Secretaries*
W. Erskine Williams, *Treasurer*

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

The Twentieth General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, assembled in Memphis, Tenn., in 1926, instructed the Board of Missions to appoint a Commission on Nationalism to study the whole question of the relations of the younger churches in mission fields to the Church in America and to study the whole situation as related to the desire of the younger churches for autonomy in ecclesiastical matters. The instruction being in the following words:

"That the General Conference authorizes the Board of Missions to appoint a commission, composed of members of the Church, both at home and abroad, which through the ensuing quadrennium shall study the whole question of 'Nationalism' as related to the larger development of our foreign work, coming together from time to time to compare viewpoints and information regarding the needs of the work, and reporting to the next General Conference a plan for the better organization and government of our work abroad."

Pursuant to this instruction the Board of Missions, at its meeting on June 15, 1926, instructed its Executive Committee to prepare a plan and to appoint a Commission on Nationalism to carry out the instructions of the General Conference and to make report to the next General Conference.

The Commission on Nationalism was composed of twenty-five members from the church in the United States and fifty-two members from the church in other countries. The whole question pertaining to autonomous and independent churches and their relationship to the church at home, questions of Episcopal supervision and all other related questions were given careful and systematic study by the Commission on Nationalism.

Before the meeting of the General Conference in 1930, the Central Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the Republic of Brazil met in the city of Sao Paulo in August, 1929, and adopted a memorial to be sent to the General Conference, which was sent in advance to the Commission on Nationalism; the memorial being in the following words, except that it contained a suggested Constitution:

"To the Most Venerable Bishops and Representatives to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, meeting in Dallas, Texas, in May, 1930.

"Dear Fathers and Brethren in Christ Jesus: The Methodist Church of Brazil salutes you and prays God to pour on you and on all the richest heavenly blessings.

"It is with great joy that we acknowledge the ever-increasing interest in us that you have shown, sending your beloved sons

to our country to preach the saving truth of the Gospel to us, also cooperation largely and generously in the material establishing of the Church of Jesus Christ in our land.

"In no way by us would it pass unnoticed your very noble and truly Christian act of placing in our hands the choice of the form of government that would best suit the interests of the Methodist Church of Brazil, without suspending any of the help that you have been giving us up to this day, even though we should think it convenient to have complete independence.

"Our Church, having naturally pondered the enormous responsibilities of all work under her direction, decided, as you will know, not to dispense entirely your wise guidance, continuing organically united with you, asking, however, sufficient autonomy to elect her own bishops and organize her discipline in such a way as to make more efficient the government of the Church in Brazil.

"For your own, as well as for our, comfort and joy, we wish to present here the statistical data that show the fruits reaped up to this time in the blessed field of the Gospel in our country.

"Out of your pioneers there are still living among us the three ministers who composed our first Annual Conference—J. L. Kennedy, J. W. Tarboux, and H. C. Tucker. They see today the great advancement of our work, which has been founded by the faith and abnegation of many preachers still living and many others already sleeping in the Lord.

"Here are the statistical data:

"Three Annual Conferences, covering seven states of the Brazilian Union, including 14 districts, 148 pastoral charges, 74 traveling preachers, 52 local preachers, 15,088 members. These members contributed last year the respectable sum of 1,218,766 mil reis (at the actual rate, \$145,899.99, being \$9.60 per capita).

"Last year (1928) 2,111 new members were received in the ranks of Jesus Christ, through baptism and profession of faith.

"There are 298 Sunday Schools with 1,345 officers and teachers and 16,634 pupils. These Sunday Schools raised last year 94,135 mil reis for their own expenses and other purposes.

"There are 144 Epworth Leagues with 5,251 members and 153 Woman's Missionary Societies with 4,798 members. These societies in 1928 raised 82,793 mil reis.

"There are 22 schools and colleges for boys and girls with 182 teachers and 2,725 pupils. There are 22 parochial schools with 47 teachers and 1,197 pupils.

"There are 132 houses of worship, valued at 6,714,720 mil reis; 32 parsonages, valued at 1,734,750 mil reis; 41 buildings for schools and colleges, valued at 10,475,662 mil reis; two sem-

inaries with 46 boys matriculated; and one publishing house, valued at 1,200,000 mil reis.

"Yet what exists and is of the greatest importance in the Church that is making such a rapid development is a zeal, an enthusiasm, a spirituality characteristically Methodist. These conditions make us believe and hope that the same glorious history of Methodism in the United States is to be repeated in our country. Your daughter, the Methodist Church of Brazil, anxiously wishes such results, and all her requests here made and her aspirations aim at that noble end, and that she may become as vigorous, as energetic, as helpful and as faithful to God and men as the mother Church has been and that she may develop a likeness to her most honored mother.

"It is because of all that is above mentioned that the Central Conference of Brazil asks the General Conference to give to the Methodist Church of Brazil, through regular legislation, the rights necessary in order that she may realize her saintly and noble ambition.

"The Central Conference of Brazil, in session in Sao Paulo last August, decided, after much prayer, careful study, and ponderation, to submit to your examination and approval projects of law necessary for her government. As you will see, these projects of law contemplate a close union of the Church of Brazil with you and at the same time an essential liberty not to hinder her natural progress and expansion." Here was given the "Projects of Law" or proposed Constitution.

"Here is, dear Fathers and Brethren, what is the golden dream of the Methodists in Brazil.

"May the Divine Son of God, Jesus Christ, give to our beloved and venerable fathers and brethren the wisdom needed for the solution of all our problems.

"(Signed by the President and Secretary of the Central Conference of Brazil and the Translation Committee appointed by the Central Conference: Derly A. Chaves, Cesar Dacorso Filho, W. H. Moore.)"

The Commission on Nationalism, having fully considered this memorial, reported under its instruction to the General Conference and the General Conference, after careful and prayerful consideration, adopted the following legislation:

"First, that the General Conference provide for the appointment of a Commission to be composed of five members to be known as the Commission on the Methodist Church in Brazil, and that this Commission be authorized to proceed to Brazil to confer with a like commission composed of fifteen members, five to be elected from each of the three Annual Conferences in Brazil.

“Second, that this Joint Commission shall be empowered to set up the Methodist Church of Brazil, with such a degree of organic relationship to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as the Joint Commission may determine.

“Third, that this Joint Commission shall be instructed, in preparing the basis for the organization of the Methodist Church of Brazil, to provide for a continued relationship between the Methodist Church of Brazil and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the United States.

“Fourth, that they shall call a meeting of the governing body, and when this body is legally constituted and in session they shall proceed to elect a Bishop and the other officers of the Methodist Church of Brazil as called for in the plan which has been prepared by the Commission.

“Fifth, that the Commission be authorized to draw on the General Conference Fund for the expenses incurred.

“Sixth, as a caution in the process of setting up the autonomous Church in Brazil, we recommend that the Setting-Up Commission be instructed to have care against the violation of the Constitutional limitations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. And we recommend second, that while giving due care to the instructions contained in these recommendations, especially endeavoring to carry out their spirit, they use whatever discretion may be required (within constitutional limitations) for setting up the autonomous Church in Brazil.”

The General Conference, in harmony with the Memorial from Brazil, also passed the following legislation providing for a form of close union with the Methodist Church of Brazil, namely:

“In foreign fields where there is an autonomous or independent Methodist Church which is affiliated either organically or otherwise with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Board of Missions, there shall be organized a Central Council to be composed of national members of the autonomous or independent Methodist Church, and missionaries working in that field, which Central Council shall take the place of the Mission. A Joint Committee of the National Methodist Church and of the Mission shall prepare a constitution to direct the operations of the Central Council, which shall be submitted to the Board of Missions for approval.

“When a Central Council has been organized in a foreign field in the place of a Mission, the said Council shall have two clerical delegates, one Missionary and one national, to the General Conference, whose rights and privileges shall be the same as those of delegates representing Missions in the Church.”

ELECTION AND CREDENTIALS COMMISSION FROM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH

The General Conference did elect a Setting-Up Commission for the erection of the autonomous church in Brazil, the official certificate of whose election is as follows:

"Dallas, Texas, May 27th, 1930.

"To Whom It May Concern:

"This is to certify that on Saturday, May the 17th, 1930, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in quadrennial session duly assembled, in the city of Dallas, Texas, by formal motion, duly made and seconded, did elect the following to constitute the Setting-Up Commission for the erection of an autonomous Church in Brazil: Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, Charlotte, North Carolina; Miss Esther Case, Nashville, Tennessee; Judge W. Erskine Williams, Fort Worth, Texas; Rev. J. L. Clark, Danville, Kentucky; Rev. F. S. Love, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Signed by L. H. ESTES,
Secretary, General Conference,
Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

THEY GO

These Commissioners sailed from New York on the SOUTHERN CROSS, a steamship of the Munson line, on July 25th, 1930, with Rio de Janeiro as the city of debarkation, which they reached on August 7th, 1930.

ANNUAL CONFERENCES MEET AND ELECT COMMISSIONERS

With all due dispatch, the Commissioners presented the proposed plan to the three Annual Conferences in Brazil, which had been called in regular session by Bishop James Cannon, Jr., the Bishop in charge. The Brazil Conference was in session in the city of Petropolis on the 7th, 8th and 9th days of August; the Central Brazil Conference was in session in the city of Sao Paulo on the 13th, 14th and 15th days of August and the South Brazil Conference was in session in the city of Passo Fundo on the 21st and 22nd days of August. All of these Annual Conferences unanimously approved the plan for an autonomous church as agreed upon at the session of the General Conference in the city of Dallas, and each elected five commissioners as follows: For the Brazil Conference, W. H. Moore, Cesar Dacorso Filho, Epaminondas Moura, D. Ottilia Chaves, Oswaldo Lindenberg. For the Central Brazil Conference, W. B. Lee, Guaracy Silveira, Oswaldo Luiz da Silva, Elias Escobar Juior, D. Francisca Ferreira de Carvalho. For the South Brazil Conference, G. D. Parker, A. M. Ungaretti, Joao Ignacio Cerilhanes, Miss Eunice

F. Andrew, Ephraim Wagner. These fifteen Commissioners from the three Annual Conferences, together with the Commissioners appointed by the General Conference at Dallas, formed the Joint Commission.

The three Annual Conferences also nominated the members of the Central Council. (The compiler of this report regrets that he cannot give the names of the delegates nor of the Council.)

MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION

The Joint Commission met in the city of Sao Paulo in the Central Methodist Church on August 28th at 2:00 P. M. After devotional exercises conducted both in Portuguese and English, Bishop Mouzon was elected permanent chairman of the Joint Commission. It was agreed that all the work of the Commission should be conducted in the two languages so that there might be no doubt as to just what was the agreement of the Commission. Senhor Guaracy Silveira was elected Portuguese Secretary, Rev. F. S. Love was elected English Secretary and Rev. G. D. Parker, who speaks both languages, was elected assistant to the secretaries. Rev. W. H. Moore and Rev. Cesar Dacorso Filho were elected official interpreters. All members of the Commission were present except Dona Mercedes Seabra from the South Brazil Conference, and Miss Eunice F. Andrew, an alternate, was seated as a Commissioner.

The Joint Commission was informed that a suggested Constitution had been prepared on board the SOUTHERN CROSS by the five commissioners from America and this document was distributed as a suggested basis for the work of the Commission in writing the Constitution.

At four o'clock the Commission recessed for coffee.

The suggested Constitution, referred to above, was considered throughout the sessions of the Commission item by item and the Commission gave long continued study to the drawing up of a Constitution in harmony with the desires of the Methodists in Brazil and the legislation passed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was in session on the 28th, 29th and 30th days of August and on the 2nd day of September.

At the evening session of the Commission on August 29th, the Joint Commission took all necessary steps for the calling of a General Conference to meet in the city of Sao Paulo on the 2nd day of September, 1930, at 8:00 P. M.

CONSTITUTION ADOPTED

At the session held at 5:00 P. M. on September 2nd, the Joint Commission adopted the following as the Constitution of the Methodist Church of Brazil, the name being in Portuguese, Igreja Methodista do Brasil:

**“CONSTITUTION
of the
METHODIST CHURCH OF BRAZIL**

ARTICLE I.

Name

The name of the Methodist Church in Brazil shall be the “Methodist Church of Brazil.”

ARTICLE II.

Doctrinal Standards

The doctrinal basis of the Methodist Church of Brazil is:

(1) The source and test of the doctrines of the Methodist Church of Brazil are the Holy Scriptures of the Old and the New Testaments, which are a divine revelation given by inspiration through holy men as they were moved by the Holy Spirit; which scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation and are the sufficient rule and guide of the faith and practice of Christians.

(2) The Methodist interpretation of those Holy Scriptures is to be found in the Apostles Creed, the Twenty-five Articles of Religion and the Standard Sermons of John Wesley.

ARTICLE III.

Membership

Conditions of Membership in the Methodist Church of Brazil are:

- (1) A desire to flee from the wrath to come and to be saved from sin.
- (2) Baptism or the ratification of the baptismal covenant.
- (3) A pledge to be subject to the discipline of the church, to attend upon its ordinances and support its institutions.

ARTICLE IV.

Pastoral Charges

Pastoral Charges shall consist of the members of the Church organized into one or more societies.

ARTICLE V.

The Ministry

1. The paragraphs in the 1922 Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, dealing with the ministry shall stand without fundamental change except the paragraph dealing with the Episcopacy and Local Preachers.

2. The Episcopacy in the Methodist Church of Brazil is not a higher order in the Christian ministry beyond and above that of Elder but is an office of special and sacred service in the oversight of the Church.

3. **Duties of a Bishop:**

(1) The Bishops shall preside in the General and Annual Conferences and in the District Conferences when present.

(2) The Bishop shall, after consultation with the Presiding Elders, fix the number and boundaries of the districts in each Annual Conference.

(3) It shall be his duty to ordain Deacons, and with the assistance of Elders to ordain Elders and consecrate Bishops.

(4) He shall travel during the year through the Presiding Elders' districts in order to preach and to oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the church.

(5) He shall decide all questions of law coming before him in the regular business of Annual and District Conference.

(6) He shall, when presiding in a session of the General Conference, decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the General Conference, which appeal shall be taken without debate.

(7) He shall fix the appointments of the preachers after consultation with the Presiding Elders.

(8) He shall, on nomination of the Central Council, make the appointment of workers in institutions to which the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, makes contributions.

(9) He shall appoint the workers to institutions supported by the Methodist Church of Brazil, upon the nomination of the Boards of organizations having such institutions under their control.

(10) He shall nominate the Presiding Elders subject to confirmation by the Annual Conference, fix their stations and change them when necessary.

ARTICLE VI.

The Conferences

The duties and responsibilities of Church, Quarterly, District and Annual Conferences shall be such as are set forth in the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1922, subject to such modifications as the Methodist Church of Brazil may determine.

The General Conference:

1. Membership:

(1) The General Conference shall be composed of one clerical and one lay member for every one thousand communicants of each Annual Conference or major fraction thereof.

(2) The clerical members shall be elected by ballot by the clerical members of the Annual Conference and the lay members shall be elected by ballot by the lay members of the Annual Conference.

2. Bishops:

(1) The General Conference shall elect from among the traveling Elders as many Bishops as it may judge necessary. They shall be elected by ballot without nomination or debate, subject to reelection. When elected they shall continue in office until their successors have been elected and consecrated at the next regular session of the General Conference.

(2) The Bishops shall preside in the General Conference in such order as they may determine; but if no Bishop be present the General Conference shall elect one of its Elders to preside pro tempore.

(3) A Bishop of the Methodist Church of Brazil shall be consecrated by the laying on of the hands of a Bishop and two or more Elders, or in

the absence of a Bishop, by the laying on of the hands of three or more Elders elected by the General Conference.

3. Powers of General Conference:

The General Conference shall have full power to legislate for the church subject to this constitution and also subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

(1) The General Conference shall not revoke, alter or change our Articles of Religion, or establish any new standards or rules contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine.

(2) The General Conference shall not change or alter any part or rule of our government so as to do away with the itinerant system or destroy the itinerant general superintendency as provided for in this constitution.

(3) They shall not revoke or change the General Rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which are adopted as the General Rules of the Methodist Church of Brazil.

(4) They shall not do away with the privileges of our ministers or preachers of trial by a committee and of an appeal; neither shall they do away with the privileges of our members of trial before the Church, or by a Committee, and of an appeal.

4. Judiciary Committee:

The General Conference shall create a Judiciary Committee composed of a Bishop, three Elders and three laymen; and when any rule or regulation is adopted by the General Conference, which in the opinion of one fifth of the members of the General Conference is unconstitutional, it shall be referred to the Judiciary Committee and their decision shall be final.

5. Sessions:

(1) The second regular session of the General Conference shall meet in the month and year to be determined by the General Conference in its first session, and thereafter it shall meet once in four years perpetually, in such place or places as shall be fixed by the General Conference.

(2) The method of calling special sessions shall be determined by the General Conference.

(3) When a special session of the General Conference is called it shall be constituted of the delegates elected to the preceding General Conference, except when an Annual Conference shall prefer to have a new election.

ARTICLE VII.

Relation with M. E. Church, South

This relation between the M. E. Church, South, and the Methodist Church of Brazil shall continue as a part of this constitution so long as the legislation of the 1930 session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as it appears in this article, continues in force.

(1) The organic affiliation between the Methodist Church of Brazil and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, shall be maintained through a Central Council.

(2) The Central Council shall be composed of an equal number of national members of the Methodist Church of Brazil and of Missionaries working in Brazil. The National members shall be elected by the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil, and the missionaries by the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

(3) The Central Council shall meet annually to consider the needs of this field, to suggest policies and to make recommendations to the Methodist Church of Brazil and to the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with reference to workers and appropriations.

2. Delegations:

(1) The Central Council shall be entitled to two clerical delegates, one a national and the other a missionary, to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with all the rights and privileges of delegates except the right to vote.

(2) The Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, shall appoint not more than two delegates to the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil, who shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of delegates to the General Conference except the right to vote.

(3) The College of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in making the Episcopal assignments shall be entitled to appoint a Bishop to Brazil in a fraternal and advisory capacity so long as appropriations are made and missionaries are sent by the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which Bishop shall be, when in Brazil, a member ex officio of the Central Council.

3. Exchange of Members and Ministers:

(1) Certificate of church membership given by pastors in either church shall be accepted by pastors in the other.

(2) It shall be lawful for a preacher to be transferred from an Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to an Annual Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil, and from an Annual Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil, to an Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with the approval and consent of the Bishops involved in the transfer.

ARTICLE VIII.

Ritual

The Ritual of the Methodist Church of Brazil shall be that now in use in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, subject to such modifications as may be necessary and that will not effect the doctrines of the church.

ARTICLE IX.

Amendments

Upon the concurrent recommendation of two-thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences who shall be present and vote on such recommendation, then a majority of the General Conference present and voting shall suffice to change the constitution or alter any of the above restrictions except the first Restrictive Rule, which may be altered upon the joint recommendation of all the Annual Conferences, by a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference succeeding; and also when such alteration or alterations shall have been first recommended by the General Conference,

so soon as two-thirds of all the members of the Annual Conferences shall have concurred as aforesaid, such alteration or alterations shall take effect."

ADDENDUM

The Joint Commission hereby declare the delegates elected by the Brazil Conference, the Central Brazil Conference and the South Brazil Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the month of August, 1930, to be the delegates composing the first General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil.

LAST MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION

At eight o'clock on the evening of September the 2nd, the Joint Commission met in the vestibule of Central Methodist Church, Sao Paulo; and while the organist rendered appropriate music, the members of the Commission led by Bishop Mouzon on one side and Bishop Cannon on the other, marched down the aisles of the church to the specially prepared platform where seats had been arranged for the entire Commission. Bishop Mouzon, as Chairman of the Commission, then read the proclamation announcing the setting up of the autonomous Methodist Church of Brazil as detailed in this report, the proclamation closing with these words:

"We, the members of the Joint Commission, giving thanks to God for His guidance and for the spirit of cooperation that has prevailed in all our deliberations, do call to order the first General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil; and we do declare that the members and ministers of the Methodist Church, South, in Brazil, do with this act become members and ministers of the Methodist Church of Brazil; and that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, ceases to exist in Brazil, and the national autonomous Church is hereby constituted."

FIRST MEETING OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Joint Commission, through its Chairman, Bishop Mouzon, then called to order the first General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil. The roll of the delegates was called by Cesar Dacorso Filho, who had been named by the Joint Commission as temporary Secretary, and he also read the proclamation and Constitution in Portuguese. Senhor Guaracy Silveira, who had been named by the Joint Commission as temporary President of the General Conference, was called to the chair and Bishop Mouzon, as Chairman, delivered to him the official copy of the proclamation and Constitution. The Commission stood adjourned by the completion of its work and the transfer of authority to the General Conference.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

It was decided that the question of property rights was not a matter to be determined by the Joint Commission. However, the following paper to be referred to the General Conference of

the Methodist Church of Brazil and the legal association was adopted:

"We recommend that Associacao da Egreigia Methodista proceed to alter the phraseology of its present Constitution as per provision in Article XVI of said Constitution in order to conform to the requirements of the new Ecclesiastical organization of the Methodist Church of Brazil."

COMMISSIONERS FROM AMERICA RETURN

The work of the Joint Commission having been completed, the Commissioners from North America, except Miss Case, left Sao Paulo on the night of September 2nd and sailed on the night of September 3rd from Rio on the ship WESTERN WORLD. Miss Case remained for some weeks in Brazil to visit the mission stations in behalf of the Woman's Work of the General Board of Missions.

HEAR OF NEW BISHOP AND PRESIDENT

When the four Commissioners reached New York on September 16th, a cable was delivered telling that Dr. J. W. Tarboux had been elected first Bishop of the Methodist Church of Brazil. Later information came that Dr. H. C. Tucker was elected permanent President of the First General Conference which proceeded with its work and adjourned on the 9th day of September, 1930. The Journal of the General Conference will be prepared in due and proper time and the church at home as well as the church in Brazil will be given full information as to what was done by this first General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil.

Signed:

Edwin D. Mouzon
Esther Case
W. Erskine Williams
J. L. Clark
F. S. Love
W. H. Moore
Cesar Dacorso Filho
Epaminondas Moura
D. Ottilia Chaves
Oswaldo Lindenberg
W. B. Lee
Guaracy Silveira
Oswaldo Luiz da Silva
Elias Escobar Junior
Francisca Ferreira de Carvalho
G. D. Parker
A. M. Ungaretti
Joao Ignacio Cerilhanes
Eunice F. Andrew
Ephriam Wagner
Joint Commissioners.

